



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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August 1, 2003

"THIS IS A COURTESY COPY OF A LETTER SENT TO YOUR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL"

The purpose of this letter is to announce and invite participation in the recently announced Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) competitive grant program for federal Fiscal Year 2003. This program is similar to the existing hazard mitigation programs, which focus on planned, pre-identified, and cost-effective mitigation projects that lessen the impact of hazards on people and property. However, it is also more restrictive in a number of issues. Firstly, this program is based on a national competitive process; therefore, only the most cost effective projects nationwide can expect to be considered and approved. Secondly, only those communities in good standing in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are eligible applicants. Thirdly, this program requires a 25% non-federal match; local applicants will be expected to meet this requirement since funds are not available at the state level.

As announced in the federal register Vol. 68 No. 129 July 7, 2003, FEMA has established priorities and project eligibility criteria. The acquisition/relocation of NFIP repetitive loss structures is among the highest priority projects. Further, the register lists the following as ineligible projects for this pre-disaster program:

- Major flood control projects such as dikes, levees, floodwalls, seawalls, groins, jetties, dams, waterway channelization; beach nourishment or renourishment;
- Warning systems;
- Engineering designs that are not integral to a proposed project;
- Feasibility studies that are not integral to a proposed project;
- Drainage studies that are not integral to a proposed project;
- Generators that are not integral to a proposed project;
- Phased or partial projects;
- Flood studies or mapping; and,
- Response and communication equipment.

Because each project submitted will be scrutinized and evaluated at the national level, the application process and content is extensive. Copies of the application (24 pages) will be provided to your jurisdiction upon notification of interest in pursuing the grant. We must receive your notification of interest by August 13, 2003.

Completed applications have to reach SEMA by September 8, 2003 and community staff members must be available to address questions regarding the application soon afterward. These dates must be met because of the time lines imposed by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

If you have questions or wish to notify us of your intent to participate, please contact Ms. Sheela Amin by telephone at 573-526-9116, by e-mail at samin@sema.state.mo.us, or by fax at 573-526-9193.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Jerry B. Uhlmann in black ink.

Jerry B. Uhlmann
Director